I'm sitting here watching the Goldfinches in a feeding frenzy outside of my living room window. Another year has come and gone and I'm getting my notes together for the LNPS annual meeting in February. It has been an interesting fall here, with more than the usual amount of seasonal color. Because of an eye injury I have not been able to do any of my usual winter cleanups and I find the perspective of the garden in its more natural state enjoyable with a carpet of leaves and fallen debris.

It has been interesting having time to just walk around the garden and reflecting on all of the personal connection that the plants bring to mind. In many ways the garden is a history of my life. I live where I grew up and pretty much everything in the garden was planted by my father or me. The redbuds, planted by my father in the 1950's, originally came from Emory Smith at Hilltop. Of course the originals are gone but their descendants continue to grace the garden every spring. As usual, the fall color from the southern sugar maple was wonderful this year, another Hilltop plant planted by my dad many years ago.

In the spring, the Southern Crab apple given to me by Bill Fontenot is always a reminder of many interesting conversations. The *Rhododendron austrinum* from Tommy Dodd’s are budding out and waiting to burst forth this spring. Lots of plants from many years of Hilltop plant sales, LNPS annual meetings, and pass along plants from friends. My garden is mostly green with lots of trees and shrubs, but tucked in are numerous ferns and perennials, many of them from Tina Reid's nursery.

The garden would not be complete without Margie Jenkins’ azaleas blooming in the spring and again in the fall. We have had a succession of blooms since September. My compost bin, quietly working its magic, is screened by a of thicket of giant Turks cap, some Camellias and a wonderful Walters Viburnum from Rick Webb. And of course, the three bald cypress in the back, planted when my daughter Jennifer came home from the first grade with three bare rooted seedlings that just had to be planted right then.

And finally, my garden would not be so complete or interesting without the influence of
Marion Drummond. I have to thank Marion for introducing me to the LNPS and many of you. She helped make our lives so much more interesting and fulfilled. I can’t count the times that Marion convinced me that she had the perfect plant for my garden and one I just had to have. Marion left us this year and she will be missed, but her presence will linger in our gardens for many years.

Have a great New Year and I hope to see all of you at the LNPS annual meeting on February 1st at Camp Hardtner.

Bob
many years. He has been particularly known for his concern about the protection of the Atchafalaya Basin. He will share his knowledge of the Atchafalaya Basin and its native plant habitats.

1:50 pm - Native Plant Auction (Funds from the auction are used to fund the annual LNPS grants given to students and organizations for native plant projects.)

Sunday, February 2, 2014
8:30 am – Morning field trip will depart from the Dining Hall at Camp Hardtner. Trip is to be determined.

Directions:
Camp Hardtner’s address is 2393 Camp Hardtner Rd., Pollock, LA 71467-4183.
It is located to the east of U.S. Highway 165, eight miles north of Pollock in Grant Parish.
The entrances to the side road that loops to the camp are near Mile Markers 103 and 109 on U.S. Hwy. 165. The loop is about 8 miles long and the Camp is midway, literally straddling the road. The loop is rough, so travel cautiously.
2014 Annual Meeting Registration Form

Registration

Saturday Meals:
- Breakfast $7.00/person (7:30 am)
- Lunch $8.00/person (noon)
- Dinner Leftovers from Potluck (5:30 pm)

Lodging:
- Holy Day Inn $55 single; $70 double/night
- Cabins $20/person, bring your linens

Please indicate which nights you will be staying:
- Friday _____
- Saturday _____

Annual Dues (form below):

Check address label for expiration date

TOTAL

Remittance

Free

Saturday Meals:

Breakfast $7.00/person (7:30 am)
Lunch $8.00/person (noon)
Dinner Leftovers from Potluck (5:30 pm)

Lodging:
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Please indicate which nights you will be staying:
- Friday _____
- Saturday _____

Annual Dues (form below):

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TOTAL

Please submit your registration and payment by January 24, 2013. Checks payable to LNPS.
Send to:
Jackie Duncan, 114 Harper Ferry Road, Boyce, LA 71409

LNPS Membership Form

Membership Form: Checks payable to LNPS.

Name: __________________________ Phone: __________________

Email: __________________________

Address: ________________________ City: ________________ State: _____ Zip: ______

Annual Dues: Student/Senior $5_____ Individual $10_____ Family $15_____
- Organization $25_____ Sustaining $50_____ Corporate $100_____

Mail to: Jackie Duncan, 114 Harper Ferry Road, Boyce, LA 71409
The Louisiana Native Plant Society was founded in 1983 as a state-wide, non-profit organization. Its purposes are to preserve and study native plants and their habitats, to educate people on the value of native plants and the need to preserve and protect rare and endangered species, to promote the propagation and use of native plants in the landscape, and to educate people on the relationship between our native flora and wildlife.

Louisiana Native Plant Society
114 Harpers Ferry Road
Boyce, LA 71409

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E-mail: jacalynnduncan@hotmail.com